CHAPTER 4

PROTECTION OF ARMS

A. GENERAL

This chapter prescribes the criteria and standards for the protection of arms in the custody of the DoD Components. Arms, including firearms in rod and gun club facilities, shall be stored in an arms room, modular vault, or an existing arms storage facility.

1. When storage in an arms room, modular vault, or existing arms storage facility will impede operational or training requirements, arms may be stored or installed as follows:

a. On aircraft, vehicle, or other platform to which assigned.

b. Class 5 GSA- approved security container, or a Type 2 portable magazine (small qualities of . Category II, Category III and IV Arms) or;

c. In other configurations, provided an appropriate level of security is maintained and as specified by the DoD Component concerned.

2. Individuals issued, or in possession of, arms are responsible for security of this property while it is entrusted to their care.

3. An arms room shall be built in accordance with the construction requirements described in MIL-HBK-1013/1 to ❑eet Class A Vault specifications. Modular vaults meeting Federal Specification AA-V-2737 may be used to meet this requirement.

4. Existing arms storage facilities may continue to be used if structural barriers provide a minimum of 10 minutes of forced entry delay. Structural upgrades of existing arms storage facilities to achieve this design goal should use MIL-HBK 1013/1 (reference (i)) or other Component-approved security engineering guidance.

B. STORAGE AND SUPPLEMENTAL CONTROLS

The storage of Category II, III and IV arms (see Appendix A) and the supplemental controls required for their protection are described below and outlined in Table 1 on page 4-3.

1. Category II through IV

a. Facility Criteria. Arms shall be stored in either an arms room, modular vault, or an existing arms storage facility provided they meet construction requirements or the current construction provides equivalent protection.

(1) Walls. Floors, and Ceilings. The construction of an arms room, modular vault, or an existing arms storage facility perimeter shall be built as described in subsections A. 3. and 4., above.

(2) Doors.

(a) Class 5 or 8 vault doors are required for arms rooms built to class A vault standards and GSA-approved modular vaults. Arms room doors shall meet the requirements of MIL-HBK-1013/1 and doors on existing facilities shall use a solid hardwood or laminated wood door of at least 1 3/4 inch thickness with a 12-gauge steel plate on the outside face or shall be of standard 1 3/4-inch thick, hollow metal, industrial-type construction

ARMs		
RISK CATEGORY II THROUGH IV		
STRUCTURAL NEEDS	**STORAGE**	**DOORS**
ARMS ROOM OR **MODULAR VAULTS** **OR** **EXISTING FACILITIES** **OR** **CLASS 5** CONTAINERS **(1)** **OR** TYPE 2 PORTABLE MAGAZINE **(2)**	**CLASS 5** CONTAINER, BANDED CRATES, **ARMS** RACK	**CLASS 5** OR **8 VAULT DOOR WITH BUILT-IN COMBINATION LOCK OR KEY OPERATED HIGH SECURITY PADLOCK AND HASP ON A SOLID HARDWOOD DOOR OR A METAL DOOR**
IDS	GUARD PATROLS	**ARMS PARTS**
REQUIRED	**ONE 24** HOUR PATROL WITH IDS FIELD CONDITIONS: CONSTANT SURVEILLANCE	MAJOR **SUBPARTS WHICH INCLUDE FRAME AND RECEIVER WILL BE PROTECTED AT THE CATEGORY OF THE ARM** BARRELS AND MAJOR SUBASSEMBLIES WILL BE PROTECTED AS CATEGORY IV ARMS

1. Facilities located on a Military Installation may store small quantities of Catergory II, Category III and IV arms in a Class 5 GSA-approved container having a combination lock, and the container is under constant surveillance or is protected by IDS within a locked room with a 24 hour supervised guard patrol.
2. Authorized for Risk Category II, III, and IV M&E and shall be built of theft resistant material of not less than 1/4 inch steel and lined with at least 3 inches of hardwood.

Table 1

with minimum 14 gauge skin plate thickness, internally reinforced with continuous vertical steel stiffeners spaced 6 inches on center. The doors shall be equipped with a high security padlock meeting Military Specification MIL-L-43607 and hasp meeting Military Specification MIL-H-29181. Installation of hollow metal doors and production facilities with roll-up doors and hinged doors for vehicle access to large bay areas shall be hardened in accordance with technical guidance provided in MIL-HBK-1013/1 reference (i)).

1 Door bucks, frames, and keepers shall be rigidly anchored and provided with antispread space filler reinforcement to prevent disengagement of the lock bolt by prying or jacking of the door frame. The frames for both interior, and exterior doors shall be so designed and installed as to prevent sufficient removal of the frame facing or the built-in locking mechanism to allow disengagement of the lock bolt from outside a secured room.

2 Door Construction requirements for frames and thresholds shall be as exacting as those for the doors themselves. For example, where metal doors are used, the frame and thresholds shall be of metal. A class V or VIII steel vault door and frame with a changeable combination lock may be used instead of other doors or locks.

(b) Door hinges on all arms storage structures shall be of sufficient strength to withstand constant use and the usual weight of the door, Hinges should be located on the inside and be of the fixed pin security hinge type or equivalent.

(3) Safes, Arms Racks. and Storage Containers. Within the areas described above, arms shall be secured in either a Class V GSA-approved container, banded crates, standard issue arms racks or locally fabricated arms racks. Arms stored in arms racks shall be secured by a padlock meeting commercial item description (CID) A-A-1927 . Rifle racks and containers weighing less than 500 pounds, with weapons, shall be fastened to the structure (or fastened together in groups which have a total weight exceeding 500 pounds) with bolts or chains equipped with a padlock meeting commercial item description (CID) A-A-1927. Bolts used to secure racks must be spot welded, peened, or otherwise secured to prevent easy removal. Chains used to secure racks shall be heavy duty hardened steel or welded, straight link, galvanized steel, of at least 5/16-inch thickness, or equivalent. An example of an equivalent chain is Type 1, Grade C, Class 4, NSN 4010-00-149-5583, NSN 4010-00-149-5575, or NSN 4010-00-171-4427.

(a) Hinged locking bars for racks shall have the hinges welded, peened, or otherwise secured to prevent easy removal. Al 1 racks must be constructed to prevent the removal of the weapon by disassembly.

(b) When weapons are in transit, stored in depots or warehouses, or held for contingencies, crates and containers shall be fastened together to achieve a total weight of 500 pounds or more and shall be banded or locked and sealed.

b. Supplemental Controls. Arms rooms, modular vaults, and existing arms storage facilities shall be protected by IDS. including both point sensors on doors and other man passable openings and motion or vibration sensors in the interior and patrolled at least once every 24 hours by a supervised guard patrol.

Under field conditions, constant surveillance is required.

(3) Windows and Other Openings.

(a) Windows and other openings shall be sealed with material comparable to that forming the adjacent walls and otherwise limited to the minimum essential. Windows, ducts, vents, or similar openings of 96 square inches or more with the least dimension greater than 6 inches shall be equipped with 3/4" steel bar mesh, riveted steel bar grating, or other hardening options, providing similar delay times described in MIL-HBK 1013/1 (reference (i))or other Component approved security engineering guidance.

(b) Bars or steel mesh shall be securely embedded in the structure of the building or welded to a steel frame that shall be securely attached to the wall with fastenings inaccessible from the exterior of the arms storage facility.

(4) Security Lighting. Exterior lighting shall be provided for all arms storage buildings, buildings in which arms rooms are located, and doors to arms rooms.

(a) Exterior lighting should be sufficient to allow guards (or individuals responsible for maintaining surveillance) to detect unauthorized activity or signs of forced entry from all sides of the building or the unauthorized removal of arms during hours of reduced visibility.

(b) Interior lighting should be considered for entrances to buildings, corridors, and arms rooms.

(c) Switches for exterior lights shall be installed so they are not accessible to unauthorized individuals.

(S) Locks and Keys.

(a) Doors used for access to arms storage rooms shall be locked with a high security locking device. Such as a GSA-approved built-in combination lock or high security padlock (MIL-P-43607) and hasp (MIL-H-29181), or other high security locking hardware approved by the DoD Component concerned. Panic hardware, when required, shall be so installed as to prevent opening the door from the outside. Panic hardware must meet safety and building codes and be approved by the Underwriters Laboratory or host country as applicable. When panic hardware is used, a balanced magnetic switch shall be installed and monitored at an alarm control center or a serially numbered seal will be placed on the door to faciliate detection if the door is opened.

(b) Key and lock controls shall be established in accordance with Chapter 3.

C. FACILITIES LOCATED OUTSIDE A MILITARY INSTALLATION.

Unless continuously manned, or under constant surveillance, facilities located outside a military installation will be protected as described in paragraph B.1.b., above. Additionally, Risk Category II Arms shall have the bolts removed and secured in a separate Class V container under the following conditions:

1. Facility does not meet structural criteria;

2. Increased threat conditions;

3. Inoperative IDS;

4. During periods of annual field training if arms are left in the facility; or

5. At the decision of the commander having direct security responsibility for the facility. Bolts so removed shall be tagged with the weapon's serial number to ensure return to the same weapon. Etching of the weapon's serial number on the removed parts is prohibited.

D. RESTRICTED AREA POSTING

Areas where arms are stored shall be designated and posted as restricted areas.

E. ARMS PARTS

Major parts for arms, such as barrels and major subassemblies, shall be afforded at least the same protection as Category IV arms. The frame or receiver of an arm constitutes a weapon and such parts, therefore, must be stored according to the correct category: for example, the receiver of a .30 caliber machine gun shall be stored as a Category II arm. The DoD Components shall review theft and loss reports from production and maintenance facilities for evidence of weapons parts diversions.